



Physical Death

THE DOCTRINE OF SIN UNTO DEATH

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The Doctrine of Physical Death

Satan, the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4) uses physical death as a tool to frighten and worry his subjects (Heb. 2:14-15). God designed death for the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ as the best and the most glorious part of living. But since God's plan for the individual believer is fulfilled only through the intake of His Word, only the spiritually mature believer will experience this kind of death.

There are seven general types of death in the Scripture:

- Spiritual death the lack of personal relationship with God in time through the Lord Jesus Christ (Gen. 2:17, Rom. 5:12)
- Second death is the perpetuation of spiritual death in eternity into the Lake of Fire (Heb. 9:27, Rev. 20:12-15)
- Positional death is the identification of the believer with Christ through His death on the cross (Rom. 6:3-4)
- Temporal death is whenever the believer is outside the fellowship with God due to personal sin (Rom. 8:6, 13).
- Operational death the failure of the believer to produce divine good in time.
- Sexual death the inability to copulate (Heb. 11:11-12).
- Physical death (Mat. 8:22, 2 Cor. 5:1-8)

The fatal, final and finite connotation of the terms "death, burial, coffin, paying our last respect for the departed loved ones, and funeral service are not only unbiblical but also have no realistic meaning because of the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ. When we buried a dead body, we are not burying the person for life is gone from it. That body lying in the coffin is not the person you have known but merely the lifeless dust and garbage.

Physical death is the separation of the human soul (the real person), from the body (his earthy tent - 2 Cor. 5:1- 4). When the believer dies, his human spirit (acquired at the point of salvation) accompanies his soul to heaven (2 Cor. 5:8b).

When the unbeliever dies, his soul which does not have a human spirit, goes to Hades to wait for his sentence at the Great White Throne judgment to the Lake of Fire (Luke 16:22-24).

The thought of death produces the greatest fear in the hearts of men, which Satan manipulates and uses as a tool to frighten and to make the people of the world worry (Heb. 2:14-15).

God designed the physical death of the believer as something wonderful, and something to anticipate. Dying is designed to be the best, sweetest and glorious part of living. Again, the plan of God for the individual believer is fulfilled only through the intake of Bible doctrine, therefore only the spiritually matured believer will experience the tremendous blessings and happiness of dying grace, the most wonderful type of dying for mature believers.

Physical death is a matter of the sovereignty of God based upon His perfect integrity and omniscient knowledge of all facts (Psalm 68:19-20). It is the means for bringing to an end the sufferings of the advancing saints from the cosmic system. It is also the means for terminating struggle of the advancing believers against the power of darkness.

God may prolong the life of some believers who are positively determined to advance toward spiritual maturity (Psa. 102:19-20, 23-24, Prov. 14:27), God controls the length of our days. The death (sin unto death) of the carnal and reversionist believers does not bring glory to God (Isaiah 38:18). The immature, carnal and ignorant believer cannot face death because the norm and standard function of the soul is to be either absent or destroyed (Lam. 1:19-20).

All believers regardless of how they live on earth, whether they remain immature, or grow and reach spiritual maturity, or whatever, all will receive the 10 basic eternal blessings after the regenerated believers die physically.

For the person who does not have eternal life, physical death presents fear, worry, doubt, and serves as a "reminder". Physical death is a reminder of the shortness of life. A satisfied and fulfilled life is a life lived under the plan of God.

Death surprises the person who has wasted his life in things without eternal values. Physical death is a reminder of the futility of life wasted in the glory of the world.

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:36-37). All the glory, power, wealth, accomplishments, and fame sought in life are destroyed by death. A dead body is nothing but a decomposing material. Nothing is left to a person without salvation except his soul which is bound for eternal hell.

There is no hope for a person who died as unbeliever. After his worldly glory, only eternal judgment awaits him. All his accomplishments, enjoyments, pleasant and unpleasant memories, all his experiences are to be destroyed by the bitterness of the Lake of Fire.

Physical death for the unbeliever is a reminder that salvation should never be taken for granted since tomorrow might not come (James 4:13-14). Physical death is also a reminder that judgment is certain and waiting for all unregenerated persons (Heb. 9:27).

The certainty of eternal judgment will surprise those who are unprepared (John 3:18, 16). For the unbeliever, death is a terrible and fearful thing (Hebrews 10:30), but the Lord Jesus Christ by His spiritual death on the cross provided the way of escape. The unbeliever needs only to avail himself of the free gift of salvation in Christ by simply believing by faith.

There are 10 basic eternal blessings after the regenerated believer die physically:

- No appointment with Great White Throne (GWT) judgment (Heb. 9:27-28)
- Will stand before the Lord face to face (2 Cor. 5:8)
- Removal of all earthly pains and sufferings (Rev. 21:4)
- Will receive eternal inheritance (1 Peter 1:4-5)
- The perpetuation of eternal life (1 John 5:11-12, John 10:28)
- A perfect resurrection body (John 11:25)
- Removal of old sin nature (OSN) (1 Cor. 15:55-57)
- Removal of human good & evil
- A new permanent home (John 14:1-6)
- A new perfect family

For believers who are in supergrace status, God will provide tremendous blessings in dying grace (Psalm 23:4). Dying grace makes death a promotion for such mature believers (Phil. 1:21). The blessings of dying grace are far more glorious than all temporal blessings in time which the spiritually mature has believer received.

Satan will try to destroy or kill such mature believer to prevent him from accumulating more eternal blessings but God will deliver them from death (Job 5:20, Psalms 33:19, 56:13, 116:8). Before the advancing believer reaches spiritual maturity, Satan will have the opportunity to test the believer.

This cross-examination by the devil is called evidence testing. This is the most intense suffering which every mature believer must face and overcome by maximum Bible doctrine in his soul.

It is the "board exam" that will qualify the believer for the dying grace blessings. Every doctrine stored and which have been made functional in the soul of the believer is very much needed.

THREE EXCEPTIONS TO DYING GRACE:

- Certain spiritually mature believers who did not experience physical death like Enoch and Elijah (Heb. 11:5-6)
- All believers of the Great Tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:17), because they had no chance to reach spiritual maturity.
- All carnal and immature believers of the Church Age will never experience the blessings of dying grace, but will receive the sin unto death.

Sin unto death is not caused by any particular sin but by the believer's continuous rejection of Bible doctrines (Psalm 118:17-18, 1 John 5:16). Maintaining spiritual momentum until death will guarantee the believer's blessings in time and eternity, minus the possibility of sin unto death. Sin unto death is not included in God's Plan of Grace for the believer. God's plan for us is to mature spiritually.

Dying grace is the mature believer's experience of physical death under the provision of grace and under the ideal conditions of happiness and blessing. It is the maximum stimulation of the soul in which the individual departs from his body in a state of supreme happiness. The dying mature believer in the moment of his death can look back on his life (by maximum utilization of Bible doctrine resident in his soul) with no regrets but with great satisfaction.

The mature believer can face eternity with unwavering confidence and awe-inspiring anticipation of meeting the Lord Jesus Christ face to face to receive the surpassing grace blessings of eternity. Dying grace is the climax point in departing from this life. There are two sources of blessings in dying grace. The blessings derived from within the believer's own soul and the blessings directly coming from God who contributes additional blessings (Psalm 33:18-19).

The dying moment of the spiritually matured believer is highly valuable to God because they are His final opportunity to justify all the doctrine in his soul.

It also demonstrates divine approval because the mature believer has glorified God in the angelic conflict and has lived a pleasing life before Him. The dying grace is the great moment of pleasure for God to bless the saints.

Since the mature believer is highly valued by God, even his departure from this world is designed for blessing and happiness. Since the mature saint knows that his death is in the hands of God, knowing no matter how he dies, he is perfectly relaxed because God will provide not only all his needs but also with special blessings. Dying grace is part of the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ that takes the sting of death (1 Cor. 15:55-57).

For the mature believer, there is no such thing as a tragic death, no matter how violent or terrible the circumstances leading to his death. Even for a murdered victim like Abel (Heb. 11:4), or being executed as a criminal like the apostle Paul, dying grace still applies.

For the mature saint the manner of his physical death will present no problem to him, rather it will stress the importance and power of Bible doctrine in a short period of time in his life. God will assist the mature believer across the bridge of time and eternity and there is absolutely nothing to fear.

The promises of Psalm 23:4 will become a reality. The integrity of God decreed our manner of death, and God's perfect justice guarantees all the provision and blessing for that death. There is no horrible physical death for the spiritually mature believer under dying grace. Dying grace is the divine opportunity to bless the mature believer more than all the blessings he has received in his lifetime.

Dying grace includes the capacity to look back on one's life without regrets, bitterness, or resentment but instead with total fulfillment and spiritual satisfaction.

At the same time, the mature believer is able to look forward to an eternal, glorious life with the Lord Jesus Christ. A life filled with indescribable blessings and rewards (2 Timothy 4:7-8). Dying grace has five major characteristics:

- No fear of death
- No regrets of life
- No worry for the living
- Certainty of God's blessings
- Anticipation of eternal rewards

Salvation is the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross for every member of the human race. It is the free gift of God to all men, not earned, and not the result of human good work (Eph. 2:8-9). Salvation is final, it is a privilege of a living person to believe and receive the free gift of eternal life. Physical death cancels this privilege and opportunity.

The final destination of a dead person, which can be either heaven or hell, is permanent, irreversible and unalterable.

Every person is given the opportunity to receive the free gift of salvation while he is alive. Physical death terminates such privilege. The dead ones don't have a chance to change their situation. They are permanently assigned to their everlasting destination. Nobody can change the divine verdict. Man chooses his own destruction and God approves it. Praying for the dead, lighting candles, honoring them with praises, offering flowers, and other rituals cannot do anything to change their situation and destiny.

Many pagan religions honor their dead on certain occasions. Certainly, the practice did not originate from the Bible. The traditional religion introduced the prayer for the dead only in A.D. 300 but many Eastern religions and Chinese folk religions have prayed for their dead several thousand years ahead. The dead people have no capacity to perceive the mass and indulgences offered in their behalf.

God does not listen to the prayer of the unbelievers. God determines the final destination of the dead based on the individual's decision to accept or reject Christ's finished work. No person can change his decision after his physical death. Nobody can remove himself from hell and nobody can take him out.

Our final destiny depends on our own decision, to believe or reject the finished work of Christ on the cross. Salvation involves the decision of the soul while the person is alive. The grace plan of salvation is available only for the living and not for the dead. Praying for the dead was designed to increase church revenues through the sales of candles, indulgences, payment for mass, flowers and other gimmicks.

Praying for the dead builds false hope and confidence for life after death. It creates the false expectation that dead men can change their final state. Praying for the dead to change their final state is like asking the president to pardon a criminal already executed by lethal injection which is an entirely useless effort.

Talking to a dead person through prayer is like talking to someone in the telephone when the line is dead. Dead people cannot hear the prayer of the living. They have no capacity to hear, to see or to know anything from the world of the living.

Age is the duration of life on earth and it stops at the moment the person dies. It is ridiculous to continue counting years, which the dead person did not utilize for living. Death terminates everything related to physical life.

God will not hear the prayer for the dead people since they are no longer on earth. God cannot change their final state because His decision is not based on the petition, request or prayer of men. He acts according to His perfect justice and righteousness. God cannot change the decision He made. He cannot revise the action He made, He is perfect.

His actions and decisions are all based on His perfect integrity. Revision or change is for something imperfect not for the perfect decision of God. Prayer cannot change His perfect decision or action.

The first real imputation from the justice of God occurs for every member of the human race at the moment of physical birth. God imputes soul life to biological life creating the human life. Biological life begins at conception and is the means for the transmission of the sin nature. Soul life is created by God at the physical birth and imputed as the means of transmitting the human soul. The combination of biological life and soul life becomes a physically alive human being.

The development of the fetus inside the womb is not yet a human being with a life of his own until the sovereign God imputes soul life, resulting to human life. Only God has the power to create a human life and no human being is a biological accident. God personally created each one of us. The first imputation occurs when the viable fetus emerges from the womb.

Human life begins when God imputes the breath or spark of life. This spark is called NESHAMAH in Hebrew, and is the same BREATH that God breathed into the nostrils of Adam, whose body God formed of dust from the ground (Genesis 2:7).

Soul life always comes in the same way, directly from God, whether to Adam as an adult or to all progeny of Adam as infants. God gave the spark of life not only to Adam but also individually to each human being (Isaiah 57:16, Job 33:4). God always provides human life in the same way, by imputation and always for the same purpose, for our happiness and blessing. The human soul comes from the hand of God which is perfect and without blemish but is immediately contaminated by the old sin nature resident in the biological life upon contact at the moment of physical birth.

The soul is spiritual, invisible, real but intangible. The human body is material but the human soul is spiritual. Animals are biological creature without souls. Your soul is the real person behind the physical body.

The biological-material body will perish and decay just like all biological things but the soul is absolutely indestructible and permanent. It will continue to exist forever either in heaven or hell. Nothing can terminate the life of the human soul, not even the most destructive bomb men have invented. The human body can disintegrate and vanish in an intense explosion but the human soul will remain intact without damage.

The soul is designed for eternity, either in heaven or hell. The fires of hell are designed to provide eternal punishment and not to destroy the soul. Hell is an eternal punishment for those who have rejected the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. The human soul is the most wonderful thing that God has imputed to the biological life. God created the soul perfect and it will return to God perfect. At the point of salvation, God has imputed His own righteousness to the imperfect soul making it acceptable to Himself.

At the point of physical birth, the perfect soul becomes corrupted upon reaching its home, the biological life. At the point of physical death, the soul of the believer will be stripped of all memory (both the pleasant and unpleasant), all human relationships, and everything that has to do with the temporal.

Human relationship in time and all the memory related to it are no longer needed. They are not assets but rather hindrance to our relationship with the Lord in eternity. Such relationship and memory are good only for our corrupted physical bodies. God will delete such link, and provide the souls in heaven with an entirely new, incorruptible, perfect and eternal bodies designed to have fellowship with God (1 Cor. 15:53-54). Physical death terminates all that is related to time and the temporal.

The eternal soul is the only thing that will be left and if the believer did not learn Bible doctrine, his soul accompanied by his human Spirit will go to heaven empty handed (no Bible doctrine in his soul). A great percentage of the Church Age Christians will reach heaven in this spiritual condition because they are either spiritually immature or reversionists. They have wasted their lives in church activities, programs, missions and ministries devoid of spiritual maturity. They have missed the purpose of the spiritual life, Satan have succeeded in deceiving them. They missed the real objective of the real life, which is spiritual maturity.

Eight (8) things that characterize the human soul:

- It is eternal not mortal
- It is permanent not temporal
- It is indestructible by anything
- It is spiritual not material
- It is invisibly hidden by a body
- It is the battlefield of the spiritual conflict
- It is the real person behind the physical body
- It has superior sensual abilities than the physical senses

The human soul will enjoy the free gift of eternal life in heaven only if that soul volitionally decides to receive the free gift of salvation in Christ. The soul that rejected the finished work of Christ will suffer in hell in eternal condemnation. Nobody can change the eternal destiny of the soul, not even God.

No amount of human good works, devotion, and religious sacrifices can change the condition of the soul in hell. Men are privileged to make their decision either to receive or believe in Christ (John 1:11-12, 3:15-16) or to reject the Gospel of Christ and suffer eternally in hell (John 3:18). The souls that rejected the free gift of eternal life earned by Christ in behalf of the entire human race will suffer without mercy.

Divine mercy is for those who received the grace of God through their non-meritorious faith in Christ. As the body develops within the mother's womb, there also develops within its cranial area the format soul. The format soul is the biological life, the material qualities of the developing brain. It consists of the genetic format for mentality, inherited from the genes of both parents.

The Hebrew word NEPHESH often translated as soul or life refers to the soul's fully formed, immaterial essence, which is provided by God at the moment the spark of life is given. The breath of life transforms the fetus and its format soul into a living soul (Gen. 2:7). The format soul becomes the home for the imputation of the soul life.

If you believe in Christ, the moments your soul departs from your body you will be absent from the body, and stand face to face with the Lord forever (2 Cor. 5:8). This is the guarantee and the assurance which frees the individual believer from anxiety of insecurity and doubt of his eternal destiny.

A saved, regenerated believer is going to heaven because he believed and received the free gift of eternal life while he was still alive on earth (John 6:47, 11:25) and not because of good works or for having been righteous.

The doctrine of sin unto death is very unpopular teaching in this generation because Satan has succeeded in keeping the majority of Church Age Christians in ignorance of Bible doctrine. Ignorance of Bible doctrine is the gateway to carnality, reversionism, spiritual rebellion and finally, the sin unto death.

Consider the following warning: "Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?" (Rom. 6:16).

"If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this" (1 John 5:16).

The sin unto death refers to the judgment of God for believers who are under the state of prolonged carnality and who has deliberately ignored the warnings and intensive discipline. Prolonged residence in the cosmic system without the volition to rebound could lead to sin unto death among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have delivered over to Satan, so that they may be taught not to blaspheme (1 Tim. 1:20).

The apostle Paul mentioned Alexander and Hymenaeus who suffered the sin unto death because of their prolonged reversionism as indicated by the term blaspheme, an indication of prolonged rejection of God's plan, purpose, and will. The believer thus lives in maximum rejection of Bible doctrine and habitual disobedience.

Sin unto death is the final stage of divine discipline for the carnal believer who has lived according to the power of old sin nature (flesh) and did not advance to spiritual maturity. The grace of God extends to every believer even those living in the world and for the world (1John 2:15).

Dying discipline (1 Cor. 11:30) or sin unto death (1 John 5:16) is the horrible departure from time into eternity. It is administered after severe jolting has been given to the habitually rebellious believer into objectivity but who refused to respond positively. Such Christian has no inner resources for meeting death, no capacity for life and no capacity for death. Not every Christian who fails in his spiritual life and continues in negative volition is removed immediately from this life. God may keep a carnal believer alive for a long time under the intensive discipline.

God employs these eternally saved "enemies of the cross" (Phil. 3:18) as instrument of momentum suffering in the lives of growing believers. The candidates for sin unto death are called "cosmic Christians", who are also called: "Enemies of God" (James 4:4), 'Haters of God" (John 15:23), "Anti-Christ" (1 John 2:18), "Hostile toward God" (Rom 8:7), "Men of flesh" (1 Cor. 3:1-3), "Doubled minded" (James 4:8), "Agents of the devil" (1 John 3:8), "Disciples of the devil" (1 John 3:10)

The only reason why God sustains the lives of some negative believers is to use them to train the growing believers. They failed to execute the plan of God but God uses them to build up the strength of others. Their "ministry" is not a Christian's calling, and there is no reward for such work of persecuting the growing and advancing believers. They are considered as goats in the sheepfold that provide the necessary physical exercises for the fattening sheep.

God alone has the sole prerogative to remove immediately or to allow a sinning believer to stay on earth for a long time. The issue is the believer's mental attitude toward Bible doctrine not the commission of sin. If God is going to destroy everyone who has committed grave sins against Him, then this planet will be empty human beings. God has already solved the problem of sins through the spiritual death of Christ on the cross.

In the same way, God is not going to punish people in hell because of sins which Christ has already paid with His death. Nobody is going to hell for sins but only for rejection of the free gift of salvation which the Lord Jesus Christ earned on the cross in behalf of the entire human race. This is called grace.

These cosmic believers on the verge of maximum intensive discipline may be sincere, sweet, and legalistic who have distorted genuine Christianity into a religion of human good works.

They are moral degenerates and negative volition believers in Satan's system who ambush the positive believers residing in divine system. The believer who is going in the wrong direction (prolonged carnality) unconsciously contributes to the growth of the advancing believer who is in the right direction (Psalm 76:10).

The perfect integrity of God manages the administration of sin unto death, which is designed to remove the calloused and rebellious believer from the face of the earth by means of physical death. Sin unto death is a reminder that we never get away with negative mental attitude or with any personal sin. The manner of physical death can be swift, natural, brutal or even terrifying depending on the lifestyle of the carnal believer.

God has never overlooked any member of His royal family and no believer is ever ignored by the grace of God. At the perfect time God will supply the just discipline to remind the believer of what is really important in his life. Sin unto death is the exclusive domain of the carnal and immature believers who failed to live under the Plan of Grace. The immature believer will die apart from true peace, inner happiness and tranquility.

It will be an extremely painful death. The carnal believer will die with anxiety for loved ones he will leave behind; he has false hope of eternal rewards and has been falsely assured of blessing in eternity. He will die with too much bitterness and fear, even the fear of death.

The only solution for all of these problems is Bible doctrine. The gradual but continuous daily intake of Bible doctrine until the believer reaches spiritual maturity guarantees dying grace. Sin unto death is the opposite of dying grace in which the spiritually mature believer departs from this world in tremendous expression of grace. During the dying moment of such spiritually mature believer, there is no physical pain and agony; there is no fear for facing the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is no fear for the future of those he is going to leave behind. He is certain that his heritage impact will bring blessings to his loved ones. Though God may allow the manner of death as decided by the volition of a person, the time of death is His exclusive prerogative.

The sin unto death may occur in swift and shocking manner or in prolonged and lingering sickness. A spiritually mature believer and a carnal believer may die in the same viral epidemic or bomb explosion but the difference is in their spiritual status.

Both die in the same manner but the spiritually mature believer will die in tremendous blessings while the reversionist dies in severe pain and fear. The first died in confident anticipation while the latter in absolute hopelessness and anxiety of seeing the Lord Jesus Christ face to face.

The life of the believer who is going to die the sin unto death lives continually in all or any of the following:

- Rejection of God and His Bible Doctrine
- Rejection of God's plan and His purpose
- Irreverence, sacrilege and profanity
- Lovers of the world and things of the world
- Acceptance of human viewpoints

There is no such thing as premature or untimely death because death will come exactly on God's appointed time; it is not even one minute late or advance.

Medical science cannot prolong the life of a patient; but they can only relieve the patient from some physical pains. The appointment of every person with death is certain and definite (Heb. 9:27) and nobody can delay or advance it.

Every believer has the potential to grow and advance in the spiritual life or become a potential collaborator of the devil though he is a member of the royal family of God.

Believers without Bible doctrine can easily become instruments of Satan for inflicting sufferings to advancing believers (Acts 20:29-30).

The devil will use the negative volition of the carnal believers to distract the concentration of those advancing towards maturity. Spiritual maturity is the gateway for glorification of Jesus Christ since it puts the believer in maximum capacity for receiving the blessings of time and eternity.

Funeral customs are the ceremonies connected with the disposition of the dead. Anthropologists have found that formal procedures exist for ensuring proper treatments of the deceased in virtually every society, no matter of how primitive or remote. Like birth and marriage, death seems universally to be regarded as a socially significant event, marked by rituals and beliefs that dictate how the dead are to be dealt with and how the survivors are to mourn.

Cultural structure, religious beliefs and superstition have contributed much to diversity of methods in disposing of the corpse. Elaboration of funerary practices has swallowed up any moral value. The burial of those with rank, nobility and wealth are known for large vaults with mausoleum compared with the less inexpensive provisions for the lower class

In short, funerary service and burial places have become a platform of arrogance. Many customs of mourning have been observed around the world, including weird and irrational practices, all in the name of the deceased.

Some funeral ceremonies lasted for weeks, months, or even years after the death. The longer the ceremonies, the more burdensome it is. Majority of Church Age believers were baptized in a pagan church without their knowledge (when they were infants) and will be buried with cultic rituals (without their knowledge). Their local churches have adapted and practiced these rituals since their existence.

Majority of the so-called church practices are not biblical in context. They have not examined their various rituals, practices and teachings in the light of the Scripture.

Few dared to examine the so-called Christian practices due to biblical ignorance or fear of being tagged as heretics or "doubting Thomas". The disposal of the corpse is very simple and for Christians it must be free from any elements of paganism or cultic principles, practices or rituals. The so-called modern Christian funeral is the blend of ancient Egyptian, Greeks, Romans, Etruscans and other cultic funerary traditions.

Elaborated funeral ceremonies were intended to ensure that the spirits of the deceased has to be properly treated so that it will gain admission to its "final resting place". The fear that the spirits of the dead will return to the world to bestow tragedy or death upon those who do not venerate them in the prescribe manner has been the major motivation for elaborated funeral practices. The deceased has become the object of adoration, glorification, and exaltation even without their knowledge.

The Church Age believers must discriminate and reject every questionable funerary customs and traditions which religion have popularized. Some Christians are lazy to study the Word of God and thereby failing to recognize the Truth from myth and superstition, the mystical from reality. Most Christians simply follow traditions and customs without wisdom. They are following the path of mystical Christianity without a thought.

The bereaved in almost all societies cry, sometimes for long periods of time. In many societies, anger and aggression are also part of grief and mourning. Funerals provide a means for the deeply grieved relatives and friends of the dead to openly display their grief and thereby channeling their intense emotions into nondestructive paths.

This therapeutic value of funerals, in providing a means of catharsis for those individuals most seriously affected by their loss, (especially those who maltreated the deceased while alive), enables them to resume a less normal life after the appropriate period of mourning has passed.

The ritual or the act surrounding the disposal of a dead body, by burial, cremation, or other means (such as exposure) are all designed to give comfort to the family of the deceased. In most cases the funeral parlor manager will make the relatives of the deceased person feel that they do not love the dead person much if they will not give him the most expensive services, coffin, burial place or flowers.

The solemn acts such as the preparation of the body, songs (laments), offering of gifts, the funeral procession, provision of a memorial, and mourning are subject to codes of procedure in most cultures.

Crying and wailing at funerals are common throughout the world; yet do not necessarily reflect any affection for the deceased. Physical death is the termination of everything related to the affairs, activities, and participation in the world of the living.

The deceased person has ceased to exist from the world; his life on earth has stopped. He has become history. But some ignorant people talk to their dead as if they can still be heard. This is the basic form of necromancy.

The human corpse decomposes rapidly without chemicals used for embalming. It is nothing but rotten meat without senses and consciousness, but some talk, kiss and treat the corpse as if it were alive. The Bible did not outline a definite funerary practice but it does permit the believers to do just anything they may wish to the dead person.

The funeral (the disposal of the corpse) is not very important for the deceased but the relatives are making great business and ceremonies out of it. The funerary practices and burial have nothing to do with the deceased's relationship with God, destiny (heaven or hell), peace and happiness, or welfare.

Culture, religious traditions, practices and myths should never allow to dictate what ought to be Christian practices. Believers must be very meticulous to the details of things we generally practice, because what we might consider Christian ways are actually paganistic. Religion and culture cannot set the norms and standards of Christianity. The Bible alone is the basis of all practices, doctrines and principles of the Christian life. Never complicate what the Lord has already made simple.

Religious traditions tend to elaborate and exaggerate what God has never augmented. They magnify the non-important and non-essential, they are giving emphasis on the unimportant. As Christians who are students of Bible doctrines, you must see to it that when you die, they will never use your corpse for heretical, blasphemous rituals, and practices. Your loved ones must be properly informed and oriented on what to do with your corpse.

It is important that you write down your personal instruction for your own funeral and burial ahead of time to avoid argument among your relatives. It must be sealed and properly addressed.

Characteristics of sin unto death:

- Maximum insecurity, fear and anxiety
- Maximum self-righteous arrogance
- Maximum panic and confusion
- Maximum negative mental attitude
- End of opportunity and privilege to advance and growth in the plan of God
- Total loss of blessing in time and eternity
- Maximum pain and agony of the soul
- Maximum regret and remorse

Deception of sin unto death:

- Fake peaceful death – false serenity and peace
- Fake happy death – false happiness
- Fake satisfaction – false fulfilled life

Factors that leads to sin unto death:

- Rejection to receive daily doctrinal instruction
- Rejection to retain and metabolize Bible doctrine
- Rejection to apply Bible doctrine to life experience
- Refusal to pay respect and concentrate to the Word of God
- Resisting the conviction of the Holy Spirit to rebound and continue in the Bible doctrine.

Prescription to avoid sin unto death:

- Consistent filling of the Holy Spirit
- Consistent intake of Bible doctrine
- Concentration (recall and retention) of doctrine
- Consistent application of rebound and recovery
- Constantly yielding to the conviction of the Holy Spirit

The sin unto death: (1 John 5:16). Basically there is no sin which causes natural death. This is a reference to sinning when you are in the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23: 4-5).

While you are dying, you can still sin. It is the sins that intensify the suffering in dying. Everything comes from the righteousness of God to condemn their failure, to the justice of God who judged it, to the love of God who provided the solution by means of grace (1 John 5:14-17, 2 Timothy 4:6).

The sin unto death is not one particular sin but it is a reference to sinning when you are in the death-shadowed valley (Psalm 23:4).

The sin face-to-face with death is you creating for yourself your very own dying misery in the death-shadowed valley God has provided for you. Deploy the personal sense of destiny on the defense line of the soul, so that you can travel through your own death-shadowed valley with the most fantastic blessings (Phil. 1:21).

Sin unto death is maximum divine discipline in which case, the believer is put in a state of physical neutralization as a result of maximum spiritual failure. It is not any one particular sin but a "last chain sinning" type of sin which initiates God's ultimate administration of discipline. When a person is under the sin unto death, they are under the Judgment of the Supreme Court of Heaven.

The believer is face to face with death. The sin terminating in death is the sin of not executing the spiritual life of the Church-age after years of warnings from the integrity and love of God. The sin face to face with death is maximum divine discipline from the integrity of God.

Sometimes a comatose situation may be the "living death" discipline. But, as in the case of all discipline, if the fact is not made known to the believer, then the discipline has no meaning. This is only necessary when the administration of death is not immediate. Under this "living death" discipline, the believer is totally separated from God's blessing and plan for him while on earth. There is no fulfillment of quality life via peace, joy and stability.

Other believers are not even encouraged to pray for them (1 John 5.16). Sin unto death refers to believers whose termination is destruction. The reversionistic believer being enemy of the cross is transfer to eternity through maximum divine discipline.

The termination, (to telos) the end, the ultimate conclusion that which causes waste, or destruction (apoleia) refers to the sin unto death. The believer who dies the sin unto death misses the blessings of God for life, misses living in resurrection life in time, and the blessings beyond ultra-supergrace and then ultra-sanctification for eternity.

Two categories of sin unto death:

- Actual death: This is because in God's plan, there is no longer any use for the believer to remain on earth.
 - Annanias and Saphira Acts 5.1-11:
 - Saul and his sons: 1 Sam. 28.16-19; 1 Chron. 10.13-14
 - The Exodus generation: Numbers 14.20-33
- Living death: Under a Divine indictment of death, and from the human perspective, in a sickness situation which is terminal (Recovery is possible through rebound)
 - 1 Cor. 5.1-5 (recovery 2 Cor. 2.5-11)
 - Numbers 12.9-15 - Miriam
 - Hezekiah: Is. 38.1-
 - Moses: Ex. 4.24-26

When a person is under the sin unto death, they are under the Judgment of the Supreme Court of Heaven and everything has been done from the righteousness of God to condemn their failure, to the justice of God who judged it, to the love of God who provided the solution as expressed in grace - but they have refused it. The sin terminating in death is the sin of not executing the spiritual life of the Church-age after years of warnings from the integrity and love of God.

God has never made a judgment of anyone that excludes the love of God. Sin unto death is the manifestation of God's grace to the believer who is facing "the sin face-to-face with death" (that is, maximum divine discipline from the integrity of God).

The sin face-to-face with death does not come all at once, but in installment or fragment of pains. The person who is in the state of sin unto death is still sinning mentally. It is these mental attitudes sinning that intensify the suffering in dying.

The state of sin unto death is described as "the sin face to face with death" while the state of dying grace is described as "face to face with the Lord Jesus Christ". There is no particular sin that leads to sin unto death but it refers to chain sinning without adjusting to the justice of God by rebound. The believers in the state of sin unto death have:

- Rejected the grace provision for rebound
- Rejected to hear Bible doctrine
- Rejected Bible doctrine provision
- Rejected to metabolize Bible doctrine

The sin face-to-face with death is you creating for yourself your very own dying misery in the death-shadowed valley God has provided for you. The dying moment of the Church Age believer is designed by God to be the most fantastic and glorious moment on earth before transfer to heaven. The sin unto death will turn it into the most horrible and terrifying moment for the reversionistic believer who intentionally on purpose defy God.

The deployment of metabolized Bible doctrine in the soul will assure and guarantee that the believer will travel through the shadow of the valley of death with peace, serenity and total blessings. Dying grace is given to mature or advancing believers. It is the greatest blessing of life because it is directly related to and is only exceeded by rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ (Phil. 1:21). Dying grace means the believer have put his confidence on God to the maximum and will receive maximum blessings that surpass all the escrow blessing of time.

Let us take a little synopsis of Psalm 23 beginning with verse 4 (corrected translation) “In addition to this, when I walk through a death-shadowed valley, I cannot fear evil [the manner of dying]; because You are with me; Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” The rod refers to divine discipline; and the staff refers to divine deliverance. In the three first verses of Psalm 23, David had been talking about the Shepherd. Now he speaks directly to the Shepherd. He had been praising the Lord, and now He is praying to His Lord. It is so often in the valleys of our lives that we find the sweetest refreshment and fellowship alone with God. Shepherds would not take their flock where they had not already been themselves.

Dying grace is the “place” where the Lord Jesus Christ will take the mature or advancing believer for refreshment after a long intensified battle. Dying grace is moment designed by God for the mature or advancing to receive the most fabulous blessings in time before entering heaven. Dying grace is the bridge that gap between time and eternity where the winner believer has to walk in steady advance of a soul which knows its road, knows its destiny, resolves to follow the path, feels quite safe and secure, and is therefore perfectly happy, calm and serene. Dying grace is not an additional blessing for the winner believer but the greatest of all the blessings the believer can receive in time.

The dark side of the shadow is the experience of dying but dying can become the greatest of all the experience for the believer. The valley is the place of shelter, protection and bridge between the temporal and eternal. Death is merely a shadow because the Lord Jesus Christ has conquered death.

Where there is a shadow, there must be light somewhere nearby. “Evil” refers to anything related to dying.

God picks the time, the manner, and the place of your dying, so you don’t have to worry about it. Confidence in God creates courage in the face of evil. We can have no fear when going through our very own death-shadowed valley, because the Lord Jesus Christ goes with us. This is David applying dying grace, occupation with Christ, and a personal sense of destiny to the problem of death or disaster. Fear is an emotional sin, and is a sign that the believer has failed to use the problem-solving devices and spiritual skills. The fear principle points to the sin unto death. We must always keep in mind that when we take that journey through the death-shadowed valley, it is meant to be a victory lap since the Lord Jesus Christ will be with every believer.

Death has left its sting in the humanity of Christ, and has no more power to harm the members of the royal family of God. Everything we have received from the justice of God is designed to contribute to the believer’s growth and advance in the plan of God. He is leading every believer to their destiny of becoming a spiritually mature believer. He is leading you to enjoy a happy death. He is leading you to a great forever after. However, most believers will have the terrifying and horrible sin unto death experience.

The sin unto death is always associated with great failure in the spiritual life, suffering and pain, going through all of the eight stages of reversionism refusing rebound. Divine discipline is the sum total of punitive measures by which God judges, corrects, and teaches the believer in time. Divine discipline is confined to time (Rev. 21:4). Divine discipline results from the believer using his own volition to create his own failures (Psalm 7:14-16).